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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

22 SEPTEMBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Citrus Heights – Estimated 300 Marijuana Plants Found Growing Inside House

(U) Citrus Heights police seized approximately 300 marijuana plants from what was described as a sophisticated indoor growing operation in a residential neighborhood. Although the outside of the house appeared normal, it was being solely used to illegally cultivate marijuana. Police said the doors and windows were fortified to prevent entry. No arrests were reported, but the news release said detectives have identified people of interest and are continuing the investigation. SOURCE: 21 September 2017, Sacramento Bee

(U) Fountain Valley - Physician Assistant Found Guilty of Drug Trafficking

(U) A physician assistant who worked at a Fountain Valley medical clinic was convicted of federal drug trafficking for writing narcotics prescriptions without a medical purpose. A federal jury found Kaitlyn Phuong Nguyen, 32, guilty of 10 felony counts related to illegal distribution of oxycodone, methadone and alprazolam. During the trial, jurors heard evidence that four people died of drug overdoses after obtaining prescriptions from Nguyen, according to the US Department of Justice.

SOURCE: 21 September 2017, The Los Angeles Times

(U) San Diego - Over 50,000 Pounds of Drugs Seized by Coast Guard Crews in Pacific Since August

(U) The US Coast Guard has seized more than a half a billion dollars' worth of cocaine and heroin potentially headed for the West Coast since the beginning of August, a sum that highlights a banner fiscal year for the military branch nationwide, officials announced this week. At a press conference in San Diego, US Attorney General Jeff Sessions commended Coast Guard crews for seizing 455,034 pounds of cocaine worth \$6.1 billion in the last fiscal year.

SOURCE: 21 September 2017, The Los Angeles Times

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – Man Accused of Trying to Join ISIS Faces New Charges

(U) West Palm Beach — Federal prosecutors filed a new criminal charge against a Palm Beach County man accused of trying to join the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) group terrorists. Gregory Hubbard, a former US Marine from West Palm Beach, was arrested in a terrorism sting last year on allegations that carry a maximum punishment of 20 years in prison. Hubbard faces charges of conspiring—and attempting—to provide support to a foreign terrorist organization. Prosecutors on 19 September added a charge of supplying ammunition to a felon, which could add another 10 years to his prison sentence if convicted. He already has pleaded not guilty to charges he tried to help ISIS terrorists and tried to go fight with them in Syria.

SOURCE: 20 September 2017, Sun Sentinel

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Denmark - Authorities Arrest Man, Woman for Alleged Links to ISIS

(U) Copenhagen – Danish authorities say two people were arrested under the country's anti-terror laws for allegedly purchasing and shipping items "to be used in combat" from Denmark to ISIS. A domestic intelligence agency official reported the activities of the 28-year-old man and 29-year-old woman were "intended to support ISIS." The names and nationalities of the pair weren't given.

SOURCE: 21 September 2017, The Washington Post

(U) France – France to Skip 2018 Winter Games if Security Not Assured

(U) Paris – France's Winter Olympics team will not travel to the 2018 Games in South Korea if its security cannot be guaranteed, France's sports minister said yesterday, the first major doubts by a participating nation about growing North Korean tensions. The games organizer said today that it is closely monitoring the current geopolitical situation with the South Korean government, adding that safety is the top priority. Tensions in the region have escalated since North Korea conducted its sixth and largest nuclear test on 3 September, prompting global condemnation.

SOURCE: 21 September 2017, Reuters

(U) Spain – Authorities Detain Man Accused of Link to Barcelona Attacks

(U) Vinaros – A man was arrested today for alleged links to the extremist cell in last month's attacks in Barcelona and a nearby town that killed 16 people. The 24-year-old suspect of Moroccan origin purchased materials for explosives in his name and he provided vehicles to transport them. The ministry said the suspect had a close relationship with Abdelbaki Es Satty, the imam that investigators see as the key figure in the recruitment of other cell members and the planning of the deadly attacks. SOURCE: 22 September 2017, Associated Press

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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